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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 26 January 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, the letter of His Excellency, Mr. Dobrica Cosić, President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in the wake of the latest offensive by the Republic of Croatia against the Republic of Serbian Krajina (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIĆ
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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ANNEX

Letter dated 26 January 1993 from the President of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to the Secretary-General

With regret and extreme concern I have to inform you that Croatia is ignoring all the measures taken so far by the United Nations, including the latest Security Council resolution, as well as by other international factors, and that it is intensifying its aggression against the Serbian people in the areas under the protection of the United Nations.

It is with cynicism, typical of aggressors, that the Croatian leadership is deceiving the world public about the limited targets of its armed operation in the Maslenički Bridge and Zemunik Airport regions, pursuing at the same time the war and extending the front. Today as well, on the fourth day of aggression, the Croatian army is pursuing its attacks with unabated force along the entire line of its offensive. Artillery units are destroying Serbian villages along the entire front line, exposing the Serbian people to persecution or annihilation and destroying the seventeenth century orthodox church in the village of Islam Grčki. The civilian population, mainly women, children and the elderly, are leaving their homes and fleeing in vast columns from the daggers and the fires of the Croatian army. Along the entire front line the Croats are bringing in reinforcements and concentrating fresh military forces and equipment. At this point, the aggressor has focused its main forces on the towns of Obrovac and Benkovac with a view to occupying and cutting them off so as to pursue the fighting towards Knin.

In order to achieve their objectives in the attacks against the towns of Obrovac and Benkovac, at certain points the Croatian commanders have concentrated large units and military might, which has as its consequence tremendously fierce fighting and extremely large numbers of victims.

The aggressor is not even sparing the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) units and is inflicting losses upon them as well, as a result of which the French battalion was forced to withdraw from the positions held so far.

It is high time for the world organization to take resolute measures in order to stop further aggression and persecution of the Serbian people, to force the aggressor to withdraw and punish him for the crimes committed. By doing so, the United Nations would, at the same time, be protecting its peace-keeping forces from new losses and enable them to perform their task.

Should there be no such action, an escalation of the war to extermination would be forthcoming inflicting a hard blow to the reputation and the authority of the United Nations.